

Angela L. Coe – new Chair of the International Subcommittee on Jurassic Stratigraphy

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Professor Stephen P. Hesselbo has come to the end of his second four-year term as Chair of the International Subcommittee on Jurassic Stratigraphy. The entire Jurassic community values the huge contribution Steve has made to the work of the Subcommittee, and we would like to thank him for the dedicated service he has given to the Jurassic community in diverse and very important ways.

On the 23rd of March 2020, the Voting Members of the International Subcommittee on Jurassic Stratigraphy elected Professor Angela L. Coe as the new Chair for the next four-year term. As written in the ICS statute, the new Chair will take forward the process for forming a new Executive and for refreshing the Subcommittee members according to the rules of the ICS. The role of the Chair is to co-ordinate and promote the work of the Subcommittee, particularly with respect to steering proposals for GSSPs to fruition, and to represent the interests of the Subcommittee in the work of the International Commission on Stratigraphy. For Angela, these will not be entirely new tasks, since she was the ISJS Secretary for the last seven years.

Angela Coe is currently Professor of Sedimentary Geology at The Open University where she has worked for over 24 years. She obtained her degrees at Durham University (B.Sc. Geology and Geophysics, Hons) and Oxford University (D. Phil.). Her research interests are in sedimentology and stratigraphy and particularly understanding palaeoclimate change, detecting past changes in sea-level and advancing our understanding of geological time. Her research topics have included: Upper Jurassic stratigraphy, the Toarcian OAE, sedimentology, palaeoclimate change, magnetostratigraphy, cyclostratigraphy, chemostratigraphy, sequence stratigraphy, development of new proxies and field techniques. In addition to her impressive research achievements, she is passionate about helping undergraduates and postgraduates to learn and develop new skills and she has been at the forefront of developing new methods for more effective education for over two decades. In 2018 she was presented with an Open University Teaching Award for Excellence in Innovation and she joined the University Senior Team to contribute her expertise in teaching. The list of her past and current service within the international



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scientific community is long and includes such positions and services as: Council member of The Geological Society of London; member of the Stratigraphy Commission, London; member of the Publications Committee for The Geological Society of London; academic advisor for the successful bid to make the Dorset coast a World Heritage site; editorial Board for *Geology*; member of Council of the Yorkshire Geological Society; Chair of the Joint Committee for Palaeontology; external examiner, University of Cambridge and University College Cork; member of the UK Earth Science Degree Accreditation Review Committee; secretary and voting member of the International Subcommittee on Jurassic Stratigraphy; and member of the NERC Peer Review College.

As a new Chair, Angela defines her ISJS vision as: “An active, growing and inclusive global community of Jurassic researchers (the “Jurassic family”) that enables significant scientific advances in Jurassic stratigraphy, provides authoritative advice on Jurassic matters and fosters international collaboration and career development”.

Strategic aims and actions proposed in her programme involve:

1. Ratification, or at least, major advancement of the proposals of the remaining Jurassic GSSPs (Kimmeridgian – submission of case to ICS; Callovian and Tithonian – facilitating investigation of sections out of Europe that will meet GSSP criteria, refreshing of working groups; Oxfordian – facilitating proposal writing workshop and encouraging submission of proposals for voting).
2. Revitalisation of the non GSSP working groups to enable greater international collaboration, by soliciting ideas for working groups and appointing leaders, applying for funds for meetings and workshops, disseminating findings and progress.
3. Support for Successful 11th Jurassic Congress in Hungary in 2022 and Jurassic sessions at forthcoming IGC and STRATI conferences.
4. Establishing positive actions to increase diversity within the “Jurassic family”, such as better representation and opportunities for career-young researchers and encouraging role models and development of subject specialist champions.
5. Improved external communications by revitalising website and appointing a webmaster; improving dissemination of Jurassic news and advancements through co-ordinated social media, website, networks and a repository; championing *Volumina Jurassica* within the academic community to encourage submissions and capitalising on popular knowledge of the Jurassic to increase general understanding.

Congratulating Angela on her new position, I would like to express my conviction that under her leadership our Jurassic family will carry on successfully, despite the challenging start of her term of office related to the current epidemic.